

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An information-recording medium comprising a substrate and a recording layer which is rewritable in accordance with phase-change caused by being irradiated with a laser beam, the information recording medium further comprising at least one other layer formed over the recording layer, wherein the recording layer contains Bi, Ge, and Te, and composition ratios thereof are within a range surrounded by the following respective points on a triangular composition diagram having apexes corresponding to Bi, Ge, and Te, and the recording layer has a film thickness of not more than 15 nm:

F3 (Bi_{3.5}, Ge₄₆, Te_{50.5})~~B3 (Bi₃, Ge₄₆, Te₅₁)~~;

C3 (Bi₄, Ge₄₆, Te₅₀);

D3 (Bi₅, Ge₄₆, Te₄₉);

D5 (Bi₁₀, Ge₄₂, Te₄₈);

C5 (Bi₁₀, Ge₄₁, Te₄₉);

F5 (Bi_{7.5}, Ge₄₁, Te_{51.5})~~B5 (Bi₇, Ge₄₁, Te₅₂)~~.

2. (Currently Amended) An information-recording medium comprising a substrate and a recording layer which is rewritable in accordance with phase-change caused by being irradiated with a laser beam, the information recording medium further comprising at least one other layer formed over the recording layer, wherein the recording layer contains Bi, Ge, and Te, and composition ratios thereof are within a range surrounded by the following respective points on a triangular composition diagram having apexes corresponding to Bi, Ge, and Te, and the recording layer has a film thickness of not more than 15 nm:

F2 (Bi_{2.5}, Ge₄₇, Te_{50.5})~~B2 (Bi₂, Ge₄₇, Te₅₁)~~;

C2 (Bi₃, Ge₄₇, Te₅₀);

D2 (Bi₄, Ge₄₇, Te₄₉);

D6 (Bi₁₆, Ge₃₇, Te₄₇);

C8 (Bi₃₀, Ge₂₂, Te₄₈);

F7 (Bi₁₉, Ge₂₇, Te₅₄)~~B7 (Bi₁₉, Ge₂₆, Te₅₅)~~.

3. (Currently Amended) An information-recording medium provided as an optical disk comprising a recording layer which is rewritable in accordance with phase-change caused by being irradiated with a laser beam, the information recording medium further comprising at least one other layer formed over the recording layer, wherein a relationship between a recording linear velocity V1 at a radius R1 and a recording linear velocity V2 at a position R2 disposed outside R1 satisfies $V2/V1 \geq R2/R1$, and the recording layer contains Bi, Ge, and Te, and composition ratios thereof are within a range surrounded by the following respective points on a triangular composition diagram having apexes corresponding to Bi, Ge, and Te, and the recording layer has a film thickness of not more than 15 nm:

F2 (Bi_{2.5}, Ge₄₇, Te_{50.5})~~B2 (Bi₂, Ge₄₇, Te₅₁)~~;

C2 (Bi₃, Ge₄₇, Te₅₀);

D2 (Bi₄, Ge₄₇, Te₄₉);

D6 (Bi₁₆, Ge₃₇, Te₄₇);

C8 (Bi₃₀, Ge₂₂, Te₄₈);

F7 (Bi₁₉, Ge₂₇, Te₅₄)~~B7 (Bi₁₉, Ge₂₆, Te₅₅)~~.

4. (Original) The information-recording medium according to claim 3, wherein $R2/R1 \geq 1.5$ is satisfied.

5. (Original) The information-recording medium according to claim 3, wherein $R2/R1 \geq 2.4$ is satisfied.

6. (Original) The information-recording medium according to claim 3, wherein $8.14 \text{ m/s} \leq V1 \leq 8.61 \text{ m/s}$ is satisfied.

7. (Currently Amended) An information-recording medium comprising a recording layer which is rewritable multiple times and which is formed on a substrate having a recording track formed thereon, for recording information by causing phase-change in the recording layer under a recording condition in which a track pitch TP is not more than 0.618 μm ~~smaller than $0.6 \times (\lambda/\text{NA})$ by scanning the recording track having the track pitch of TP across a laser beam having a wavelength λ collected by an objective lens having a numerical aperture of NA,~~ the information recording medium further comprising at least one other layer formed over the recording layer, wherein the recording layer contains Bi, Ge, and Te, and composition ratios thereof are within a range surrounded by the following respective points on a triangular composition diagram having apexes corresponding to Bi, Ge, and Te, and the recording layer has a film thickness of not more than 15 nm:

F2 (Bi_{2.5}, Ge₄₇, Te_{50.5})~~B2 (Bi₂, Ge₄₇, Te₅₁);~~

C2 (Bi₃, Ge₄₇, Te₅₀);

D2 (Bi₄, Ge₄₇, Te₄₉);

D6 (Bi₁₆, Ge₃₇, Te₄₇);

C8 (Bi₃₀, Ge₂₂, Te₄₈);

F7 (Bi₁₉, Ge₂₇, Te₅₄)~~B7 (Bi₁₉, Ge₂₆, Te₅₅).~~

8. (Currently Amended) An information-recording medium comprising a substrate and a recording layer which is rewritable in accordance with phase-change caused by being irradiated with a laser beam, the information recording medium further comprising at least one other layer formed over the recording layer, wherein the information-recording medium has a disk-shaped configuration, a groove is previously formed in a concentric form or in a spiral form on the substrate, at least one of the groove and a land between the grooves is used as a recording track, at least one of the groove and the land is wobbled, and the recording layer contains Bi, Ge, and Te, and composition ratios thereof are within a range surrounded by the following respective points on a triangular composition diagram having apexes corresponding to Bi, Ge, and Te, and the recording layer has a film thickness of not more than 15 nm:

F2 (Bi_{2.5}, Ge₄₇, Te_{50.5})~~B2 (Bi₂, Ge₄₇, Te₅₁)~~;

C2 (Bi₃, Ge₄₇, Te₅₀);

D2 (Bi₄, Ge₄₇, Te₄₉);

D6 (Bi₁₆, Ge₃₇, Te₄₇);

C8 (Bi₃₀, Ge₂₂, Te₄₈);

F7 (Bi₁₉, Ge₂₇, Te₅₄)~~B7 (Bi₁₉, Ge₂₆, Te₅₅)~~.

9. (Canceled)